Docket No.: 46884-5479 (226448)

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Mitsuharu MIWA et al.

Application No.: 10/580,007 Confirmation No.: 7737

Filed: May 2, 2007 Art Unit: 3777

For: LYMPH NODE DETECTING APPARATUS Examiner: J. F. Brutus

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN RCE

Concurrently filed herein with a Request for Continued Examination and prior to continued examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows. This filing is in further response to the Final Office Action dated April 28, 2011 and also in response to the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review dated November 1, 2011, the period for response to which extends through January 3, 2012 (January 1, 2012 being a Sunday and January 2, 2012 being a Federal Holiday).